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THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION  
OF THE  
ASSOCIATED ALUMNÆ OF  
TRAINED NURSES

OF THE UNITED STATES

HELD IN

THE ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

17 WEST 43<sup>D</sup> STREET

NEW YORK CITY

MAY 3, 4, and 5, 1900

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

# OFFICERS FOR 1900.

## President.

MRS. ISABEL HAMPTON ROBB, 1342 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

## First Vice-President.

MISS EMMA C. HACKETT, 726 West Adams Street, Chicago, Illinois.

## Second Vice-President.

MISS EMMA J. KEATING, Erie County Hospital, Buffalo, New York.

## Treasurer.

MISS TAMAR HEALY, 160 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, New York.

## Secretary.

MISS MARY E. THORNTON, 143 East Thirty-fifth Street, New York City.

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## COMMITTEES.

### Incorporation.

MISS L. L. DOCK,

MISS E. D. AYERS.

MISS ISABEL MERRITT,

### Periodicals.

MISS M. E. P. DAVIS,

MISS H. FULMER,

MISS M. W. STEVENSON,

MISS M. A. NUTTING,

MISS SOPHIA F. PALMER,

MRS. ISABEL HAMPTON ROBB.

### Division of Expense of Delegates.

MISS HELENA BARNARD,

MISS J. J. CUNNINGHAM,

MISS IDORA ROSE,

MISS BROWN.

### Sectional Committee.

MISS M. P. PARKER,

MRS. ELLINOR VAN SANTVOORT,

MISS BROWN,

MISS O. BIRDSALL,

MISS A. J. GREENLEAS.

### Census.

MISS FULMER and Sectional Committee.

### Committee on Study Course.

MISS F. A. STONE,

MISS A. M. CARR,

MISS MARY B. CLYMER,

MISS J. J. CUNNINGHAM,

MISS A. J. GREENLEAS,

MRS. SARAH SHEARER.

### Committee on Reports of Local Associations.

MISS A. O. TIPPET, Chairman.

### Printing Committee.

MRS. D. D. JENNINGS.

MISS MARY E. WADLEY.

MISS CORA WARREN,

### Committee on Arrangements.

MISS ANNIE DAMER, Chairman.

# Delegates Registered.

May 3, 1900.

|  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Bellevue Hospital, T. S. A., New York . . . . .            | { Miss ANNIE DAMER.        |
|  | “ LIDA G. STARR (3 votes). |
| Boston City Hospital, T. S. A. . . . .                     | { “ EMMA T. ELLIOT.        |
|  | “ DELIA KNIGHT.            |
|  | “ MARY M. RIDDLE.          |
| Brooklyn Hospital, T. S. A. . . . .                        | { “ GEORGIANA A. SHIBLEY   |
|  | “ C. E. VAN INGLE.         |
| Brooklyn Homœopathic Hospital, T. S. A. . . . .            | “ CARRIE D. MCKEE.         |
| Erie County Hospital, T. S. A., Buffalo . . . . .          | “ EMMA J. KEATING.         |
| Farrand, T. S. A., Detroit . . . . .                       | { “ ELLEN H. COURTNEY.     |
|  | “ MARY G. THORNTON.        |
| Garfield Memorial Hospital, T. S. A., Washington . . . . . | “ MARY C. GANNON.          |
| Illinois, T. S. A., Chicago . . . . .                      | { “ JESSIE BREEZE.         |
|  | “ EMMA C. HACKETT.         |
|  | “ HELEN W. KELLEY.         |
|  | “ ELIZA J. MOORE.          |
| Johns Hopkins Hospital, T. S. A., Baltimore . . . . .      | { “ A. M. CARR.            |
|  | “ N. W. READ.              |
|  | “ G. C. ROSS.              |
|  | “ JANET SAMPSON.           |
| Long Island College Hospital, T. S. A., Brooklyn . . . . . | “ V. E. TOUPET.            |
| Maine General, T. S. A., Portland . . . . .                |                            |
| Massachusetts General Hospital, T. S. A., Boston . . . . . | { “ MARY L. KEITH.         |
|  | “ PERSIS M. PLUMMER.       |
| Methodist Episcopal Hospital, T. S. A., Brooklyn . . . . . | “ S. J. REMSEN.            |
| Michael Reese Hospital, T. S. A., Chicago . . . . .        | “ ELIZABETH H. STEELE.     |
| New York Hospital, T. S. A. . . . .                        | { “ ANNA B. DUNCAN.        |
|  | “ JANE B. EMERY.           |
|  | “ ELIZABETH HITCHCOCK.     |
|  | “ FLORENCE M. LINTON.      |
|  | “ HELEN G. MATHEWS.        |
|  | “ GEORGIA T. WILKIE.       |
| New York Post-Graduate Hospital, T. S. A. . . . .          | { “ CASTELLA C. FRALEIGH.  |
|  | “ SARAH J. GRAHAM.         |
| Paterson General Hospital, T. S. A. . . . .                | “ MARY E. O'NEILL.         |
| Pennsylvania Hospital, T. S. A., Philadelphia . . . . .    | “ ALICE M. GARRETT.        |
| Presbyterian Hospital, T. S. A., New York . . . . .        | “ NANCY E. CADMUS.         |
| Presbyterian Hospital, T. S. A., Philadelphia . . . . .    | “ C. E. DAVENPORT.         |
| Rhode Island Hospital, T. S. A., Providence . . . . .      | “ MARY H. PATERSON.        |
| Rochester City Hospital, T. S. A. . . . .                  | “ ELIZABETH FRICK.         |
| Roosevelt Hospital, T. S. A., New York . . . . .           | “ ELIZABETH M. BURNS.      |
| St. Joseph's Hospital, T. S. A., Paterson . . . . .        | “ ANNA M. E. O'BRIEN.      |
| St. Luke's Hospital, T. S. A., Chicago . . . . .           | { “ E. EASTMAN.            |
|  | “ M. E. JOHNSTONE.         |
| St. Luke's Hospital, T. S. A., New York . . . . .          | Mrs. HERMINE D. STONE.     |
| St. Mary's Hospital, T. S. A., Brooklyn . . . . .          | Miss D. M. MACDONALD.      |
| University of Maryland Hospital, T. S. A. . . . .          | “ ARTHRALIA LORD.          |
| University of Pennsylvania Hospital, T. S. A. . . . .      | { “ A. E. BROBSON.         |
|  | “ N. M. CASEY.             |

Total, 48 Delegates—49 votes.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION

NEW YORK, MAY 3, 4, AND 5, 1900

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*First Day—Thursday, May 3, 1900.*

THE morning was devoted to committee meetings.

## FIRST SESSION.

ONE P.M.—Presentation of credentials, payment of annual dues, and registration of delegates.

The convention was opened with prayer by the Reverend David Greer, D.D., the president, Mrs. Isabel Hampton Robb, in the chair.

The address of welcome was delivered by Mrs. Cadwalader Jones as follows:

ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO THE ASSOCIATED ALUMNÆ BY MRS. CADWALADER JONES.

"I consider it a great honor to have been asked to bid you welcome to the city in which the first training-school for nurses was started, now nearly thirty years ago. It has often been remarked that events which have relation to each other are apt to happen about the same time; for instance, discoveries in science have frequently been made almost simultaneously by different investigators working independently. Thus in the year 1873 training-schools were opened at Bellevue Hospital, New York; at the Connecticut State Hospital, New Haven, and at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston.

"Probably few of you remember a time when trained nursing did not exist, but as I can, I may be allowed to say a few words about the condition of things which made the need of it so urgent. When I was a girl, nursing was either considered a gift, like a good voice, or an occupation, like cooking. Every family had some member or friend who was always known as a 'born nurse' and whose help was called for in any emergency. In many cases she certainly deserved her name, and the care she gave was much better than none at all, but it was anything but scientific.

"The 'born nurse' flourished especially in country districts, and was called in often without reference to the doctor, thus becoming his colleague, so to speak, if she approved his treatment, and not if she happened to disagree with him. I can remember several cases where these 'born nurses' directly disobeyed the physician's orders; if the patient got well, the credit was theirs; if he died, the fault was the doctor's. That was one class.

"The other was to be found in all cities where it was necessary that physicians should have some women of experience on whom to rely in acute cases and those of an obstetric nature. If a case of pneumonia or typhoid threatened to be serious and the household was becoming exhausted, the attending physician usually provided some woman whom he had employed in like circumstances before, and often she had learned to be a good nurse by obeying the doctors to whom she owed her living.

"For obstetric nurses there were elderly married women or widows, very respectable, and with a good deal of experience. Sairey Gamp might have been, and no doubt often was, found in the hospitals, but I have never in this country known or heard of such a creature in private practice.

"As to the hospitals, when I first came to live here in 1871, Bellevue was

probably about as good as most general hospitals throughout the United States, and the condition of things there was certainly bad enough. The nurses were of two kinds,—either elderly stupid creatures who had not sense enough to be house servants, and who had usually more than a taste for drink, or else they were young women of rather lively tendencies who were always ready for a flirtation with the house staff.

"In those days it was a risky thing for a doctor to order liquor for a case, as he was very likely to find the nurse the worse for it and the patient none the better. If, on the other hand, he strictly forbade any stimulant whatever, the sympathetic attendant was ready, for a consideration, to smuggle some in for the patient when she brought her own supply.

"Of downright brutality and cruelty there was, perhaps, not much, but there was a great deal of ignorance, carelessness, and mismanagement. You, who went into and graduated from training-schools already thoroughly organized, can have but little idea of what the first pupils in our schools went through. They were the pioneers who cleared the ground and sowed the seed by which we all profit now.

"At the present time there are three hundred and eighty-eight training-schools registered in Washington, and the number altogether is probably over four hundred, while from two hundred and fifty to two hundred and seventy-five pupils graduate each year from the fifteen schools of Greater New York.

"At your commencements you were probably told that you were going to follow a very beneficent calling, and that you were rather seraphic to have chosen it. I don't think I have ever been at any nurses' commencement at which at least one of the speakers did not say how blessed it would be to smooth the sufferer's pillow, and although I am a great admirer of Sir Walter Scott, I have come to wish that he had never written that line about the 'ministering angel,' because I have heard it so often. I do not mean to be flippant about a profession which I profoundly respect, for I am convinced that no woman can be really a good nurse who does not love nursing and to whom each patient is not more or less like her own child for the time; but besides doing an immense amount of good, like physicians,—indeed, a surgeon said to me only last summer, 'Without trained nursing surgery could not stand where it does now,'—you are, like the doctors, members of a regular profession, entitled to its honors, and at the same time bound by its responsibilities, and those responsibilities are not only personal to each of you, but they touch you as members of a general body.

"Now, it has been found, over and over again, that it is one of the hardest things in the world to make us women work together effectively. As somebody who wanted to start a woman's club once said, 'Women will join, and they'll pay their dues, but they won't come and they won't work.'

"If we will only think a little, it is usually not hard to find a reason for any trait of human character which is not abnormal, and I think we can account for this one. From the earliest times men have been in the habit of congregating together, either for offence or defence in war, or for council in peace, and while they were still living in caves they had practically learned the lesson which we have all heard in so many forms, about there being safety in numbers, that 'united we stand, divided we fall,' etc. But the women, on the other hand, were left behind, each one in her own cave with her babies, or later, as life grew more civilized, in her castle, or in her house in the town, or in her hut in the fields, but always shut into the little circle of interests which began and ended with her home. For many women that always has been, and always will be, the fullest and happiest life, but it is not to be followed by all of us, and if we once step outside that charmed circle we must be prepared to meet other obligations. They do not come easy to us, and I believe it is for the reason I have just given, but it is cowardly to shirk them, and also bad policy. Just now there is a great outcry against trusts. Wherever two or three people are gathered together we are told that they are forming a trust about something or other, which is therefore to be condemned. I do not, of course, mean to stand up for any organization which strives to make too much profit or to grind the working-people, but nobody can watch the tendency of our day without seeing that the big fish are gradually swallowing the little ones. Now, when that happened long ago, in the Middle Ages,—when the feudal lords and land-owners seemed likely to have everything their own way,—the little fishes got together and formed various

guilds, which in the course of time more than held their own, and became as powerful in their way as the power which they resisted. We all know more or less about these guilds, and we have heard how jealously they protected themselves from intrusion from outsiders, just as the trades-unions do now, but unless we go a little farther into their history we may not realize how much good they did to their own members. Freemasonry, which has been a power in the world, came from the fellowship of one guild, and they were all benevolent societies, with funds which were used to relieve their sick and helpless, as well as to teach the young and to support the old.

"Every modern association like this of your alumnae follows the example of the old guilds, and copies only what was best in them. Ten or fifteen years ago training-schools were comparatively few in number, and almost any trained nurse was sure of enough to do after she graduated, but you know that such is not always the case now. The best nurses may be always busy, but we cannot all be 'best,' and although it is as true as ever that there is 'plenty of room on the front bench,' people in every profession are now fairly sitting on each other's laps on the second. There are already a large number of alumnae members in your association,—over two thousand, I am told,—but it seems to me that there should be many more members and that they should be drawn together more closely. These annual conventions are most useful, besides giving the people to whom you come a great deal of pleasure, but they are not enough. Each pupil when she graduates should join the alumnae association of her school, and in every town large enough there should be some gathering-point at which the alumnae of all the local schools, and those of other places near enough, may meet, say once a month, to discuss matters of professional interest and also to encourage social intercourse and good comradeship. If there is any medical discovery or improvement which is attracting attention, probably some clever physician would be willing to make an address about it out of general kindness and benevolence, and also because a doctor is as anxious that nurses should be good as a locomotive engineer is to get a good fireman. The question of the disciplinary power of such an association is also important, and the more such power is known to exist, the less likely it is to need exercising.

"But the great object must be to draw all members together. Women are by nature—or long habit—rather suspicious of each other, and, as I have said before, it is hard to make us work together loyally and unselfishly; and yet you must, if you wish to keep up the standard of the schools. There should be a journal devoted to the interests of the alumnae throughout the country, and it should be taken by every member, and so well supported that it may be really useful. Every profession or trade which amounts to anything has at least one of these technical journals, and some of them are excellent. I do not mean a scrappy little paper, made up of cuttings from medical magazines and articles by young persons who have the terrible talent of writing easily, but a well-edited and responsible 'organ,' to use the newspaper word. Every school in this country should report its commencements in it and the number of its graduates; every nurse who has a case requiring peculiar care should report it, carefully concealing the identity of the patient; good articles by competent writers on subjects of interest to the profession should be published, and news given of nurses who may be working in other parts of the world. To give you an idea of how much such a publication is needed, I have found it impossible to ascertain how many graduate nurses there are now in the United States or even the number of training-schools, nor can I find out where to apply for English or American trained nurses in case I should be taken ill in any European city where they have an agency.

"To conduct such a journal properly will cost at least two thousand five hundred dollars a year, and if that should be too small a sum, a sufficient one can easily be raised, and you should see that it is forthcoming, and not for one year only, but as a steady subscription. A man is supposed to attain years of discretion, if he is ever to have any, when he is five-and-twenty, and your profession is already older than that in this country. It is high time that you should all work together as a whole, forgetting any little rivalries which may have existed between one school and another, and making one body united for the common good. That is the only way in which you can keep your calling on the high plane to which you have raised it.

"If I have taken too long, please forgive me, and forgive me also that I have spoken of professional matters. My excuse is that I have a great interest in you all, and if I have told you only what you knew already, you may remember the old saying about outsiders, that 'Bachelor's wives and old maids' bairns are always the best guided.'"

The president then made her annual address, Miss Barnard, first vice-president, in the chair.

On motion, unanimous votes of thanks were extended to Dr. Greer and to Mrs. Cadwalader Jones.

The president announced that the next day's session would be called at ten A.M. The meeting then adjourned to banquet-room, where tea was served by the Committee on Arrangements.

#### *Second Day—Friday, May 4, 1900.*

The association was called to order at ten A.M. by the president.

After the roll-call the annual report of the secretary, Miss Thornton, was read and accepted.

The secretary then read a summary of the meetings of the Executive Committee during the year.

#### REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1899-1900.

"Four meetings have been held during the year; at these meetings topics for papers and discussions were selected and assigned.

"The secretary was instructed to write to the Canadian societies relative to the dropping of Canada, explaining that it was found to be necessary for incorporation proceedings, and to send them copies of first and second annual reports and invite them to become visiting members. She was also instructed to make out a complimentary list, and to place thereon honorary members, Canadian societies, and editors of nursing journals, and to each send a copy of the annual report.

"The association was invited to meet in Toledo in 1901, but was obliged to decline, as an invitation had already been accepted to meet in Buffalo.

"It was decided that the societies should be asked not to send superintendents as delegates, because many of them were charter members and would attend the convention at any rate, and by appointing delegates from among the graduates a larger representation would be secured, a wider range of discussion assured, more interest among graduated nurses aroused, and more responsibility be assumed by them. The committee decided only to print lists of new members this year to save expense.

"Application blanks were sent out, upon request, to twenty-six alumnae associations. Of those the following were returned and passed upon: Erie County, of Buffalo; Massachusetts Homœopathic, of Boston; Methodist Episcopal, of Brooklyn; the Roosevelt, of New York, and St. Luke's, of New York, and have been admitted to full membership.

"The following were admitted to associate membership: The Henry W. Bishop; Third Memorial, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts; the New England Hospital for Women and Children, of Roxbury, Massachusetts, and the Old Dominion, of Richmond, Virginia."

Correspondence was then taken up. The secretary read the letter from the secretary of the Alice Fisher Alumnae of Philadelphia, announcing the resignation of that society, which was accepted. The general correspondence of the year included a letter from Miss Margaret Breay, honorary secretary of the Provisional Committee of the International Council of Nurses, asking that the draft constitution of the council be brought before the convention and inviting dis-



The report of the treasurer, Miss Tamar E. Healy, was read and referred to the auditor.

TAMAR E. HEALY, treasurer, in account with the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States,  
April 27, 1899, to April 27, 1900.

| RECEIPTS.                              |         | DISBURSEMENTS.  |          |
|--|---------|---|----------|
| To balance on hand April 27, 1899..... | \$95 09 | Rent of Rooms for Second Annual Convention....  | \$35 00  |
| Initiation fees.....                   | \$25 00 | Expenses of president incurred in attending special, also Executive Committee meetings..... | 30 45    |
| Annual dues.....                       | 171 90  | Expenses of first vice-president.....   | 10 00    |
| Annual dues (in advance for 1900)..... | 43 80   | Secretary, for incidental expenses and stamps.....  | 16 98    |
| Sale of First Annual Reports.....      | 2 50    | Treasurer, for stamps, stationery, and tax upon out-of-town checks.....                     | 6 20     |
| Sale of Second Annual Reports.....     | 249 10  | Expenses of Arrangement Committee.....  | 5 89     |
| Interest on bank account.....          | 1 22    | Engraved stationery.....  | 7 05     |
|  | 493 52  | Printing and stamps for Census Committee.....   | 8 02     |
|  |         | Stenographer for copying and typewriting proceedings of Second Annual Convention.....       | 32 75    |
|  |         | Printing of Second Annual Reports.....  | 265 00   |
|  |         | Typewriting for division of expense.....  | 4 00     |
|  |         | Interest on loan.....   | 4 00     |
|  |         | Auditing books.....   | 2 00     |
|  |         | Balance on hand April 27, 1900.....   | \$427 34 |
|  |         |   | 161 27   |
|  |         |   | \$588 61 |

Audited and found correct May 9, 1900, by  
Byron Horton, 101 E. 23d St.,  
New York.

\$588 61

cussion thereon, in order that the constitution might be thoroughly representative and prove useful to nurses of all nations.

The president asked Miss Dock, a member of the Provisional Committee, to speak upon the formation of the International Council of Nurses and upon the question of the Associated Alumnae joining the National Council of Women. Miss Dock said she thought the subject would be made clearer if she read extracts from a letter written by Mrs. May Wright Sewall, president of the International Council of Women, on the subject.

"... these various organizations all seem to have a distinct and fine work before them; but all of these seem to me to legitimately belong to a national nurses' society; and while, if there should be a national organization of superintendents and another national organization of normal students, etc., etc., each one of them, if national, would be eligible to membership in the National Council of Women of the United States. I feel that the entire profession would be stronger if all of these should be regarded merely as parts of your National Society of Nurses, and should come into the council through having your National Society of Nurses enter the council. Moreover, this would be much cheaper. The triennial fee of the societies in the National Council is one hundred dollars. To have that paid by your society as a whole would certainly be much less expensive to your profession than to have the same fee paid by many different national societies of nurses, each one covering a certain phase of the work.

"Let me try to emphasize the fact that there is no possibility of any organization which belongs to the National Council becoming subordinated by the National Council. Every society retains its full integral identity. It is in no way obstructed or directed in the execution of its own work; it simply has, through its affiliation with the council, the greatest possible opportunity of making its work known among women workers of all classes, and thus of augmenting its own numbers and strengthening its position in dignity and influence. . . . Any State society must be stronger if made up of local groups rather than of individual members. . . ."

Miss Dock then gave an account of what was done in London last summer in organizing the International Council of Nurses.

The president asked Miss Dock if a society could join the International Council of Nurses without joining the National Council of Women.

Miss Dock.—Of a logical necessity they hang together, as one includes the other. We can only share in the quinquennial, where our International Council of Nurses will meet, by belonging to the National Council of our country.

The president asked whether it was likely that the Society of Superintendents would be willing to affiliate with this alumnae joining the National Council of Women.

Miss Dock said that while no action on this point had been taken in the Superintendents' Society, that such affiliation had been spoken of. However, it had not been known how the alumnae would regard such a proposition.

Miss Barnard asked if it would not increase the expense a great deal.

The president said it would add to the expense.

Miss Breeze said the expense would be less to join as a large body than as a small body.

Miss Barnard said a more important point was to get the State Associations started, as they were of more importance than joining a large body like this. When the State Associations were once started that it would be wise to take up the other.

Miss Dock said that would take five or six years, and it would not be well to wait so long.

Miss Ross asked what the expense would be.

The president said the expense would be about fifteen or twenty dollars, and that the expense could be met from the regular dues without any extra assessment.

Miss Hackett said inasmuch as the added influence to be gained by an affiliation would be so great, the expense was well worth it.

Miss Thornton said the fact of having representatives going every five years to the conventions of the International Council of Women was of such vast importance that there should be no delay in joining.

After some further discussion Miss Dock suggested that the matter be left open for a year to allow the delegates time to communicate with their associations.

The president explained that the delegates had come invested by their alumnae with power to act as they thought best in regard to the question.

The president asked what the usual custom was in regard to delegates' expenses being paid.

Miss Dock said that there did not seem to be any fixed custom. Definite procedure had not been agreed upon; some delegates had their expenses paid, some paid them themselves. If the delegate intended to go abroad at that time anyhow, she paid her own expenses; if, on the other hand, a certain delegate was chosen to go and it was thought best for that one to go, and she could not afford to pay her expenses, then the society paid them.

A delegate asked if the National Federation of Women's Clubs belonged to the National Council of Women.

Miss Dock said she believed not.

Miss Breeze moved that a committee of five or six members be appointed by the chair to consider and report on this matter.

The motion was carried and the following committee appointed, with Miss Breeze as chairman: Miss Dock, of Bellevue; Miss Graham, of New York Post-Graduate; Miss Brobson, of University of Pennsylvania, and Miss Thornton, of Farrand.

The executive session adjourned at 11.15 A.M. and the general meeting was held.

The proceedings were opened by Miss Dock with a paper entitled "What Benefit will the Associated Alumnae be to me?" The discussion was to have been opened by Miss Tippet, but that lady not being present, Miss Hackett followed with her discussion.

Miss Maxwell, the chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, then reported as follows:

"The Committee on Arrangements beg leave to report that the rooms in the Academy of Medicine were secured at ten dollars per day. One hundred and twenty-five invitations were sent to friends interested in our work in New York and vicinity, and a 'tea' was given by the members of the committee to welcome and introduce the delegates. Entertainment for delegates was offered by Miss Rhodes, Miss Woolley, Miss Starr, and Mrs. Bowling, of the Bellevue Hospital Alumnae; Mrs. Simons, of the New York Hospital Alumnae, at the Sloan Hospital; Miss Twitchell, of the New York Hospital Alumnae, at the Smith Infirmary, Staten Island; Miss Thornton, of the Post-Graduate Hospital Alumnae, at the Club-House, and Miss Rykert, at the Post-Graduate Hospital; Dr. Tompkins, of St. Luke's Hospital Alumnae; Miss Burns, of the Roosevelt Hospital Alumnae; the Presbyterian Hospital Alumnae, and the Presbyterian Hospital.

Social entertainments were proffered the delegates, but these had to be declined on account of the length of the programme."

The committee also stated that at the Women's Exchange a lunch would be prepared and served at half-past twelve or a little earlier.

The president requested the delegates to occupy the seats on the left-hand side facing the platform, and the permanent members the two front seats on the right-hand side, and the visitors the remaining seats on the right-hand side.

The president then called attention to page 20 of the constitution on the subject of the Nominating Committee, and asked the members to form such a committee.

The meeting adjourned until two o'clock P.M.

*Friday, May 9, 1900.*

The convention reassembled at two P.M. The president stated that the first half-hour of the afternoon session would be devoted to the hearing and discussion of reports.

The annual report of the Printing Committee was read as follows:

"The second annual report of this association was printed in Cleveland, Ohio, last spring, and distributed among our members early in the summer. Much gratitude is due to our president, Mrs. Isabel Hampton Robb, for personally supervising the work.

"There were two thousand five hundred copies printed, of one hundred and thirty-two pages each, at a total cost of two hundred and sixty-five dollars, making each copy cost within a fraction of ten cents.

"A more satisfactory method of distribution was adopted for the past year; that is, a report for each member of each alumnae was sent in bulk direct from the printers to that individual alumnae, thereby greatly lessening expenses and work of addressing.

"A critic has said that each year our reports grow more pretentious. I call your attention to the fact that this must be the case or it could not contain the records of our progress.

"SARAH R. JENNINGS, Chairman."

Miss Dock, chairman of the Committee on Incorporation, made an oral report as follows:

"Owing to the fact that the name of our association has not been decided upon, nothing has been done by your committee as to incorporation of the association. The incorporation is a very simple process and will not take a very long time. I have made inquiries of different organized societies, and I find that there is not much difference between the different States,—very little more advantage in one State than in another. It will not take any time to effect the incorporation, but owing to the pending change in the constitution, nothing has been done as yet."

The report of the Committee for Condensing the Reports of the Local Alumnae Associations was read by the secretary, Miss Thornton:

"The committee beg to submit the following:

"Twenty-three alumnae associations have been heard from. Of these, the largest has a membership of two hundred and forty-seven, the next in size numbers one hundred and ninety-two, and the next one hundred and fifty-two. The remainder are less than one hundred and fifty; six only are above one hundred. Nine report increase in membership, the greatest being St. Luke's, Chicago, thirty-three having been added during the year. All report regular business meetings, with the exception of four. A large proportion have held educational

# CONDENSED REPORT OF LOCAL ALUMNÆ ASSOCIATIONS.

| NAME.   | Membership. | New Members. | Meetings held.  | Purpose of Meetings.                      | Loss of mem-<br>bers by death. | Loss of memb's<br>by resignation. | REMARKS.   |
|---|-------------|--------------|---|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Belleuve Hospital.....  | 142         | 19           | Monthly.....  | Educational and business.                 | 3                              | 1                                 | Weekly lectures during winter. Association engaged in caring for and visiting sick members. Fund accu-<br>mulating to endow a free bed for the members when ill.   |
| Boston City Hospital.....   | 152         | 3            | Four.....   | Business and social.....                  | 1                              |                                   | Society on good financial basis.   |
| Brooklyn City Hospital.....   |             | 5            | Monthly.....  | Educational and social.....               |                                |                                   | Directory cards issued in January stated an increase in charges.   |
| Farland Training School.....  | 121         |              | Five.....   | Educational and business.....             |                                |                                   | Average attendance at meetings, twenty. Framed a code of ethics, organ-<br>ized a system of professional study; established a sick fund.   |
| Garfield Memorial Hospital.....   | 37          |              | Monthly.....  | Educational and business.....             | 1                              |                                   | Furnishes a printed monthly report, which has the form of a news letter.   |
| Illinois Training School.....   |             |              | Monthly.....  | Educational, business, and<br>social..... |                                |                                   | Club-house furnished by general fund and gift, also scholarship estab-<br>lished for Hospital Economics in Teachers College. Visiting nursing<br>inaugurated under its auspices. Much interested in proposed Maga-<br>zine of the National Alumne Association, and have purchased one<br>share of stock. |
| Johns Hopkins Hospital.....   | 192         |              | Quarterly.....  |   |                                |                                   | Lectures by physicians.  |
| Baltimore.....  |             |              |   |   |                                |                                   |  |
| Maine General Hospital.....   | 29          |              | Monthly.....  | Educational.....                          |                                |                                   | Class in parliamentary law taught by Mrs. Shattuck.  |
| Massachusetts General Hos-<br>pital.....                                    | 108         | 18           | Three business. Ten in-<br>structive.....                   | Business and educational.....             |                                |                                   | Lectures by physicians.  |
| Michael Reese Hospital, Chi-<br>cago.....                                   | 49          |              | Monthly.....  | Business and educational.....             | 1                              |                                   | Two shares in Magazine and one hundred and seventy-nine subscribers to<br>Magazine guaranteed. Gave course in "Elementary Nursing," pro-<br>ceeds of which swelled Benefit Fund. United with three other alum-<br>ne associations for lectures.  |
| Presbyterian Hospital, New<br>York.....                                     | 65          | 1            | One.....  | Business.....                             |                                |                                   | Lectures.  |
| New York Hospital.....  | 247         | 27           | Nine. Weekly lectures<br>through four winter<br>months..... | Business, educational, and<br>social..... |                                |                                   | Registry rules revised. Lectures given by hospital staff.  |
| Peterson General Hospital.<br>Pennsylvania Hospital, Phila-<br>delphia..... | 37          | 8            |   | Business and educational.....             |                                |                                   | Course of study proposed by Association Alumne taken up. Held, in con-<br>nection with two other associations, six lectures per month.   |
| Philadelphia Presbyterian<br>Hospital.....                                  | 81          |              | Monthly.....  | Business and educational.....             |                                |                                   | Studies suggested by Association Alumne. United with two other schools<br>in holding course of six lectures a month.   |
| Rochester City Hospital.....  | 67          | 11           | Quarterly.....  | Business and social.....                  | 1                              | A<br>few                          | United with other associations to form a county association for the pur-<br>pose of procuring needed legislation. Publishes a monthly paper. Has<br>established a Sick Relief Fund.  |
| St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago  | 136         | 33           | Eleven.....   | Business and educational.....             |                                |                                   | Lectures given monthly by physicians.  |
| University of Pennsylvania<br>Hospital, Philadelphia.....                   | 103         | 7            | Monthly. Lectures twice a<br>month through winter.....      | Business and educational.....             |                                |                                   | United with two other schools in holding six lectures a month.   |
| Maryland University, T. S.<br>Alumne.....                                   | 44          |              | Two.....  | Business and social.....                  |                                |                                   | Supports a club-house. Sick benefit fund. Interested in Army Bill.   |
| New York Post-graduate<br>Hospital, T. S. A.....                            | 97          |              | Monthly.....  | Business and social.....                  |                                |                                   | Open registry. United with three other alumne associations for study course. Lectures<br>given each week. Fair and a New England supper given at different<br>times during year to aid in completing club-house work.  |

and social meetings also. One has increased its sick fund by giving a course in 'Elementary Nursing.' Some have united with other associations in lectures, thus accomplishing more than could have been done alone.

"We subjoin the condensed reports, and beg for lenient judgment if the figures and records are not perfectly correct, because the reports, some of them, at least, were so indefinitely expressed that we may have misunderstood the meaning, although we endeavored to be accurate.

"Should the association wish a similar condensed report another year, we would suggest that a blank form be sent to each secretary to fill. This would greatly simplify the work of all.

"A. O. TIPPET."

The president stated that there had been some question as to the advisability of continuing these reports from several *alumnæ* associations, and she hoped that the convention would discuss the matter and give expression to its opinion. Miss Ross, of Johns Hopkins University, moved that the reports be continued. Miss Davenport, of Philadelphia, said she thought the reports were not only interesting but instructive, and she seconded the motion that they be continued for another year. The motion was carried.

The report of the Committee on Periodicals was asked for. Miss Davis, the chairman, read the report as follows:

"The Committee on Ways and Means of Publishing a Magazine has the honor to submit the following report:

"From the numerous 'ways' four were selected to work from.

"First: To put the magazine into the hands of a reliable, widely known, well-established publishing company, who would print, bind, proof-read, mail, and copyright in a manner that would not be one whit below that of the standard magazines of the day, and in addition would furnish a business manager perfectly familiar with all details of the work, such as soliciting advertisements, canvassing subscriptions, etc.,—in fact, attending to all duties outside those assumed by the editor and staff.

"Second: To make a contract with a printing company who would agree only to print, who would not assume any other of the details, or if it did, would not guarantee the manner and promptness of its performance, as it could have no control over firms doing work outside its direct line of binders, mailers, etc.

"Third: To allow a business firm that has a large printing plant of its own to issue it who would be willing to assume all the labor in return for the revenue accruing from the advertising pages.

"Fourth: To join forces with some kindred or educational magazine about to be put or already on the market.

"The cost of issuing by the first two methods when summed up and averaged will not differ materially, being approximately three thousand six hundred dollars per annum for a monthly issue of two thousand five hundred copies.

"The means—First, subscriptions; second, advertisements; third, joint stock company.

"When the committee had obtained the foregoing information, it became necessary, in order to prove the feasibility of the first-named scheme, for it to have some assurance that subscriptions would be forthcoming, and in view of that there were printed and distributed five thousand copies of the circular with which you are familiar, and two hundred copies of a proposed outline.

"The returns from this procedure are in the neighborhood of five hundred and fifty cash subscriptions with 'encouraging promises' as soon as the scheme becomes a reality.

"From a publishing house the information has been obtained that we may depend on advertisements to about the sum of one thousand dollars net per annum, provided the subscription list amounts to not less than fifteen hundred, first issue.

"Fearing that the first two 'means' would not furnish sufficient funds for incidental expenses and to carry on the work with a rational guarantee against failure, the third method in conjunction with the other two was resorted to.

"A joint stock company has been formed, limited, with shares, par value one hundred dollars, selling at par. As a result, a guarantee of the sale of twenty-four shares has been obtained.

"The amount of cash at the present available therefor is about three thousand four hundred dollars, which, in the estimation of the committee, is a sufficient amount to warrant arrangements being made for an early issue of the magazine.

"The committee think it may be interesting to give a synopsis of the work done in connection with this enterprise, so that some idea may be formed of what it means to take even the preliminary steps.

"The chairman, having accepted the appointment, made a trip from Boston to Philadelphia to meet the president of this association, to have the work formally turned over to her, the president heretofore having assumed the duties. Together they interviewed a publishing house that kindly gave them a certain amount of information on which to base their estimates.

"A meeting of the committee was called in New York in January, 1900, Mrs. Robb, Miss Palmer, and the chairman being present. Various questions were discussed and a plan of work formulated.

"Another meeting (informal) was held in Boston in the same month, to which all nurses were invited.

"It became evident to the committee and others that in order to reach the members of the profession, to acquaint them with the movement, and to interest them in helping on with the work, quite a sum of money would be needed to pay for printing, postage, and stationery. Accordingly, at the meeting in Boston forty-one dollars were handed over to the chairman to be expended for that purpose. Not by the most penurious economy could the expenditure be kept within that limit.

"The chairman has written above three hundred personal letters, not counting answers to questions, and when to those two items are added the receipts for moneys, the listing of names, etc., you can easily see that it would have been almost impossible for any one actively engaged to have accomplished with such a small expenditure of money and nervous force the present substantial results.

"Miss Stevenson undertook to write to all the Canadian hospitals of which she had knowledge. We have several subscriptions from Canada, which are doubtless the result of her effort.

"The other members of the committee assisted in the distribution of the circulars, spurred their schools and alumnae to take hold of the movement so that all this work and expenditure might not go for naught, sending also estimates from printers, etc., and greatly encouraging and cheering the chairman when inclined to be discouraged by the difficulties that thickened more and more as we proceeded, and threatened often to swamp the frail craft. I may add here that but two communications that could in any way be considered discouraging were received, both within the profession.

"The committee would feel honored if in this connection it were allowed to make one or two suggestions independently of the official report. Taking into consideration the fact of the immense amount of detail with which we as individuals are unfamiliar, and the high class of work which we demand, it seems absolutely necessary that this work should be put into hands competent to carry it through from beginning to end, with the least possible cost for the greatest amount of labor and perfection of execution, thereby relieving the editor and staff, who are doing all this work gratuitously, from a great expenditure of nervous force that might interfere with the excellence we are aiming to obtain, thereby causing shipwreck. It therefore suggests that the work be given to a publishing company.

"Also, being well aware that it has exceeded the bounds of its duty in asking for subscriptions and forming a joint stock company, the work would have been most rudimentary without such action, as the case was urgent and would not admit of delay till another year, therefore this committee suggests that it be given power to act."

Miss Vreeland asked for information concerning the subscriptions and the joint stock company proposed for the support of the magazine.

Miss Davis replied that they had five hundred and fifty subscriptions at two dollars each and a joint stock company with shares of one hundred dollars each.

MISS VREELAND.—So I understand that the publication of the magazine has been given to a publishing firm?

MISS DAVIS.—We have no power to do that. We have exceeded our power in doing what we have done, and we ask now for power to act in making a selection.

Miss Brobson, of the University of Pennsylvania, moved that the committee be given power to go right ahead.

Miss Steele seconded the motion.

Miss Hitchcock offered the following as a substitute for Miss Brobson's motion, which was accepted:

"In view of the fact that continual business management will be needed in the conduct of the magazine for some time to come, I move that the present committee be reappointed as a standing committee with power to act until such time as their services can be safely dispensed with."

The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Miss Gannon, of Garfield Memorial, offered a vote of thanks to Miss Davis and her committee for the untiring energy and zeal they had shown in the discharge of their duties. Carried.

Miss McIsaac said: "It seems to me that it is very important that the alumnæ should follow the lead of the Johns Hopkins and take stock in this joint stock company. It does seem that in all large societies it would not be difficult to raise quite a sum. Five dollars is not a very great amount to risk, even if it is not a success, while from Miss Davis's report there is every evidence that it will be a great success."

Miss Palmer said that the Alumna Association of the Rochester City Hospital had raised the amount necessary in a very few minutes. One said twenty-five dollars, another said ten dollars, another five dollars, and the hundred dollars was made up without any urging. The alumna associations only need to have the matter brought before them to have the same enthusiastic belief in the success of the magazine which the committee feel.

MISS BARNARD.—How is the stock company going to manage its affairs? If we keep it within certain limits we can, perhaps, manage it ourselves without incorporating it, but if we allow it to get too large we will have to incorporate it. We thought we would make the shares large and limit subscriptions to a certain amount and keep it within ourselves.

MISS DAVIS.—No one fears that they will lose their hundred dollars, and they may get good dividends if properly managed.

Miss Breeze, of Illinois, from the committee appointed to report on whether this association should join the National Council of Women, stated that the committee had been unable to hold a meeting and asked for further time, which was granted.

The convention then adjourned to meet at ten o'clock A.M. to-morrow, Saturday, May 5, 1900.

*Saturday, May 5, 1900.*

The convention was called to order by the president at ten o'clock A.M.

Reports from committees being in order, Miss Damer, from the Educational Committee, submitted the following report, which was accepted:



"TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATED ALUMNÆ:

"Your Committee on the Course of Study beg to report that the following course was suggested to the alumnae associations to be adopted in whole or in part, according to their discretion

"1. Parliamentary Law.

"2. Ethics.

"3. Bacteriology and Hygiene.

"4. Practical Nursing Subjects, with suggestions as to topics under these four general heads.

"Sixteen associations reported as having followed the course or as having arranged their own on the same lines, viz.: Michael Keese, New York; Garfield, Maine General, University of Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Presbyterian, New York; Illinois, Pennsylvania, Post-Graduate, St. Luke's, Chicago; Bellevue, Rochester City, Farrand, and Presbyterian, Philadelphia.

"No reports were received from Johns Hopkins, Boston City, Massachusetts General, Long Island College, Brooklyn, Homeopathic University of Maryland, and Paterson General.

"The following associations reported as having followed no course of study whatever during the winter: Brooklyn City, St. Mary's, Brooklyn, and St. Josephs, Paterson.

"The committee has found that as a course of study involving special work by the members it has proved impracticable, therefore lectures on the subjects selected were arranged for in New York and Philadelphia, the local associations combined in the former place holding weekly meetings for four months, in the latter monthly during the winter. This plan was considered eminently successful, as many as eighty members being present at a time. In many places where there is only one association, graduates of other schools were invited to attend the lectures.

"All the associations are unanimous in their expressions of appreciation of the interest shown by the lecturers and the willingness with which they gave their time and services towards making the plan successful.

"Respectfully submitted,

"ANNIE DAMER, Chairman."

Miss Damer said that the committee had asked for suggestions bearing upon their work from all the alumnae. They had received suggestions for three courses for next year. In two they confined themselves to nursing subjects and in the other they incorporated literary subjects. The committee had really gained very little information in that way, and she thought if questions were asked and answered by the delegations present more light would be thrown upon the subject.

Miss Barnard in the chair while the president took the floor.

THE PRESIDENT.—This committee was only appointed last year to see what could be accomplished along study lines. They have done far better than we could have hoped for. As the formation of such a committee was only suggested last year, Miss Damer had a great deal of correspondence before she could get the committee appointed. She had, therefore, very little time and opportunity to place the proposed work before the several alumnae societies, and in view of these facts the results attained have been remarkably successful. It rests with you whether you desire to have this committee continued for another year. I would like to hear a general discussion on the subject.

MISS BREEZE.—I move that the Committee on Education be continued in office to carry on the work they have inaugurated for another year.

THE PRESIDENT.—Do you mean the same committee?

MISS BREEZE.—The same committee will be highly satisfactory.

MISS DAMER.—I am really unable to remain on the committee for another

year. I have so much work in my own association that I cannot undertake any further responsibilities. If it is decided by the convention to continue the same committee, I would suggest the name of Miss Stone, of the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, as chairman of the committee.

Miss Breeze's motion to continue the Committee on Education in office for another year was then adopted, and, on motion of Miss Damer, Miss Stone, of the Presbyterian Hospital of New York, was appointed chairman.

Miss Breeze, chairman of the Committee on Affiliation with the National Council of Women, said that the committee had had a meeting yesterday afternoon and had drawn up the following resolutions, which they begged to submit for the consideration of the convention:

"WHEREAS, The Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States and the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools for Nurses, having each under favorable consideration the step of entering the National Council of Women of the United States; and

"WHEREAS, The suggestion made by Mrs. Sewall, that the organized bodies of nurses in the United States could affiliate together and enter the National Council of Women under some such title as 'The National Council of Nurses' or 'Council of American Nurses,' having been favorably considered by both bodies;

"Resolved, That the Associated Alumnae of the United States and the American Society of Superintendents do affiliate under the title 'American Council of Nurses,' and apply for membership in the National Council of Women under this title,—it being understood that other bodies of nurses nationally organized are eligible to affiliate with the 'American Council of Nurses' for the purpose of sharing this membership in the National Council of Women. It shall be understood that this affiliation does in no way interfere with the constitution or special objects of any affiliating society;

"Resolved, further, That each society thus affiliating shall appoint two (2) of its members, all of whom together shall choose one member at large, and that these members appoint their own chairman and constitute an Executive Board to carry on all relations with the National Council of Women, and shall give a yearly report of same to each society affiliated under the title 'American Council of Nurses.'"

Miss Carr moved that the resolutions submitted by the committee be adopted and that the committee members from the Nurses' Associated Alumnae be appointed by the chair. Carried.

The report of the Committee on Division of Expenses was next called for.

Miss Barnard, as chairman of that committee, said: "So far as our committee is concerned, I cannot say that we have worked much together. At the beginning I saw some and wrote to others and asked for plans and suggestions. I received suggestions from one or two members of the committee, but soon found that the work was of such a nature that the committee could not very well work together, so I am afraid I shall have to bear the responsibility of the whole thing myself. I should like to refer to the printed report of last year, where you will find the reason why we undertook this work. The primary object was not so much a division of expenses as to provide means for securing the attendance of all the delegates from the several alumnae societies instead of one delegate from each association with power of proxy. Then you may remember, if you read the report, that it was only to be experimental for one year. Next year I think you will find the opportunity to try the other method. This plan could not be carried out if we met in different cities each year. Of course, there are advantages on both sides of the question. There are a great many advantages in the plan of meeting in different cities. I think we will probably have less delegates,

but we will have a large local attendance. Whether that would be as representative a body of people to discuss national questions can only be decided by testing the subject by holding the meetings in that way. As to the work accomplished by our committee, I have not prepared a written report, because you all have received the letters and statements and have had the workings of the plan explained to you. We were sorry to have to ask you to pay in this money to create the fund, but were very much pleased with the prompt manner in which you met the call. I think I have no report to make except to ask you to fully discuss the methods employed. Let us hear how you individually feel, as delegates, as to the advantage of being here,—the advantage of having present the whole number of delegates from an association,—the advantage to the association and to the delegates in having this larger opportunity for conference. Our object was to get the delegates here. It is for you to decide whether the system is advantageous and whether it shall be continued. We are entitled to fifty delegates this year and forty-eight are registered."

THE PRESIDENT.—Last year we had thirty-six, thus showing an increase of twelve.

MISS BARNARD.—We were entitled to fifty before we had our new members come in this year.

MISS BROBSON.—The question is whether it is better for us to meet always in New York City or to meet in different cities each year. If we meet here, of course this plan enables a much larger number of delegates from far-away places to be present than where each association pays the expenses of its own delegates. But it seems to me that in carrying on our work enthusiasm counts for so much that we ought to meet in different cities in order to come into direct touch with the local societies all over the country. I think we ought to meet in Philadelphia some time. I think it will be improving in every way to see what is being done at these meetings.

THE PRESIDENT.—I think the understanding was to make New York our head-quarters, because if we move about from place to place it will be impossible to pool the expenses. Each alumnae association would have to meet its own expenses. Next year we meet in Buffalo, and according to Miss Barnard's report it will be impossible to pool expenses next year. Possibly it will be better to leave the question of whether we shall meet in New York continually until after the meeting next year. I only suggest this in order to save time.

MISS BARNARD.—I think there is no necessity to make a decision to-day. Next year you will have the opportunity of trying other methods, and will have the benefit of that experience to guide you.

THE PRESIDENT.—While I do not consider it important that a decision on this subject be made now, yet I want to advise you to discuss the matter fully this year, so that your delegates will understand the true situation when they come to the meeting next year.

MISS BARNARD.—So far as the work of this method is concerned, we simply get the prices of the railroad and Pullman tickets and allow for expenses in the city. We have obtained reduced rates over all the roads, even with the New York Central, where the rate is high, the reduction is as much as between eighteen and twenty-four dollars. The New York associations entertaining the delegates will be more than an offset to the withdrawal of the Philadelphia association.

MISS BREEZE.—A number of delegates would like to know why it would be impossible to pool expenses if we meet in different cities.

MISS BARNARD.—I do not mean to say that it would be absolutely impossible, but it would be highly unpractical and complicated. We would have to employ an expert railroad man to work out the problem for us, and we would probably have to pay him for doing it.

MISS RHODES.—We appreciate very highly the privilege of being able to send all our delegates here in New York.

MISS BARNARD.—I think it would be quite impossible to send a full delegation from Chicago, for example, except by the plan of pooling expenses. I think the expense of sending one delegate is nearly seventy-five dollars.

The question was asked what proportion of this expense is shared by the New York delegates.

MISS BARNARD.—The proportion is exactly the same in New York and Chicago. New York paid the same, exactly, as Chicago this year.

MISS RHODES.—How many delegates are here from New York? Is not the proportion of delegates larger from New York?

MISS BARNARD.—There are sixteen from New York, including Brooklyn.

THE PRESIDENT.—All those who feel satisfied with the work of the Committee on Division of Expenses this year will please signify that satisfaction by standing.

The response was a unanimous vote expressive of the satisfaction of the convention with the work of the committee.

MISS BARNARD.—I was fearful that you might not be satisfied, as the work was merely experimental.

MISS DAMER.—We are not dissatisfied with the report of the committee, but some of us are dissatisfied with the plan. We feel that it is a very great drain on the individual associations to pay in this amount yearly. We think we ought to be represented, but we do not feel that we can afford it. We might send one delegate,—we are sending more now because we are paying for it. We are paying in this year sixty-four dollars, and each year we will have to pay the same amount or more. We feel if we continue this plan we will have nothing left for our local and other expenses.

MISS BARNARD.—Of course, if we meet in near-by cities, such as Philadelphia or Boston, the pooling system would be more expensive for you, but if we should meet in Chicago or other Western cities it would cost you more to send one delegate. The president has suggested that you discuss this matter with your alumnae during the year, because when you send your delegates to Buffalo next year there will be no pooling of expenses, and the question will be brought up there for decision.

MISS RHODES.—It does not seem to be thoroughly understood how the rate of taxation for membership is fixed,—why the tax is ten cents each.

THE PRESIDENT.—As I understand Miss Rhodes's question, she desires to know why the tax is fixed at the amount of ten cents per capita for membership in the Associated Alumnae.

MISS HEALY, treasurer.—If you will turn to your constitution, under the head of "Dues and Fines," page 21, you will find the following:

"SEC. 1. Each and every alumnae association joining the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States and Canada shall pay an initiation fee of five dollars (\$5) for every fifty members, and five dollars (\$5) for every additional fraction of more than half that number. Alumnae associations of less than fifty mem-

bers shall pay five dollars. This fee shall be paid by the treasurer of each alumnae association within one month after admission into this association.

"SEC. 2. This initiation fee shall include annual dues for the first year. Annual dues thereafter to be fixed yearly by this association (Executive Committee). Annual dues shall be paid to the treasurer at the annual meeting."

This amount has been fixed each year by the association, and they thought it simpler just to tax each member ten cents than to pay it from the general fund. Thus an association with ninety-five members pays nine dollars and fifty cents, and an association of seventeen pays one dollar and seventy cents.

The Sectional and Census Committees did not report any progress over last year.

THE PRESIDENT.—We come now to a consideration of the amendments to the constitution read last year at the annual meeting and sent three months ago to each alumnae. The secretary will please read the amendments.

The secretary, Miss Thornton, read as follows:

"Article I. Amend by striking out the words 'and Canada.'"

A vote was taken and the amendment was adopted.

"Article III. Amend by striking out the following clause: 'If not less than one hundred beds.'"

A vote was taken and the amendment was adopted.

"The next amendment is to Article IV. Amend by inserting in the first phrase following the word 'Active,' the word 'Associate.'

"Alter the second phrase to read thus: 'Active membership shall consist of delegates duly elected to represent alumnae associations of general hospitals, giving not less than two full years of training in the hospital of all officers of the association and of all charter members.

"Associate membership shall consist of duly elected delegates representing alumnae associations of small general hospitals whose superintendents are eligible for membership in the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools.

"That all articles or by-laws not in conformity with these amendments be amended to agree with them."

THE PRESIDENT.—There is also an amendment to that amendment to Article IV. which shall provide that, besides alumnae associations other than local organizations or societies of nurses may be admitted to full membership on the condition that these societies have the same requirements for admission as the National Alumnae, viz.: two full years of training in a general hospital. It is in order to vote upon the amendment to the amendment first.

MISS BARNARD.—I wish the convention to consider this very carefully before the delegates vote. We are very much interested in State federation. There are a great many excellent members we are anxious to have in the association who are not members of alumnae associations. If we admit them, however, into full membership we will have to undo all that we have done, working on alumnae lines. Before we vote, would it not be better to hear from the other body as to what they want to do?

MISS DAMER.—Our society is one of the societies meant. The Buffalo Nurses' Association organized five years ago, taking in all graduated nurses in the city from small and large schools. A year ago the constitution was altered, and now we only take in graduates of schools having fifty beds and giving the full two-years hospital training. We feel the necessity for State organization for legislative purposes. As to how we shall organize so as not to conflict with the National

Association and not conflict with what we are planning has been a problem. We fear that if we organize entirely on *alumnæ* lines that the whole of the representation will come from one city in the State and will not be a general representation. We have two or three *alumnæ* associations in the western part of the city of Buffalo connected with the National Society now, and whether to add to those associations in Buffalo or have our own local association and affiliate with the National Association is a problem which has caused us much thought. We are in sympathy, and we all want to work together and do not want to split up our body. But if we organize in New York State we think we ought to organize as we think best. The conditions may be different in different States. We would organize for our own needs and then affiliate in some way with the National Association. We think the State association should be an independent body, but affiliate with the national organization, taking in the *alumnæ* associations, or forming a county society or local society where there are a number of them. In New York, where the city and county are the same, I suppose it would take in all the associations here. In Erie County I think all the schools are in the city of Buffalo and very few nurses practising outside of the city. Go a little farther west, and in Chautauqua County there are three or four towns with small schools, and the nurses practising there might unite in forming a small society. I do not think we would want our local association to go into the national organization on any other basis than that of active membership. We feel that we are doing as good work is the *alumnæ* associations are, and if we go in we want to go in on terms of equality.

MISS PALMER.—When we come to organize a State society, the principal motive being to influence legislation, we take an entirely new departure from the motives actuating us in the organization of our associations for educational and social purposes. We go before the Legislature as citizens of the State, not as graduates of any one particular school. The nurses of the State who hold diplomas from reputable schools would certainly have a right to representation in a State society; otherwise we would build up, in the beginning, a political opposition which would prevent our passing any law in any State in the Union. The first qualification is citizenship, not school qualification. In regard to the county society we have organized in Rochester, and I think we are the pioneers among county societies, our principal motive has been to assist in the organization of a State society. We have not marked out any definite lines and we have not considered the question whether we wish to affiliate with the National Society or not. We have organized purely for State purposes. The *Alumnæ* Associations of the Rochester City Hospital and the Homœopathic School united in issuing a call to the nurses of Monroe County to come together and organize a county society, and in that first meeting there were represented eight schools from different parts of the county. A number of active working nurses in that community, Miss Allerton, Miss Smart, my sister, and myself, occupying important positions in the western part of the State, are not New York women, and because of that fact we have absolutely no representation in the affairs of the State in any way. Any nurse who lives away from her *alumnæ* association is specially interested in the organization of these county societies. We feel that it is important that we have a voice in the nursing methods of the State where we are located. Those are the two points I wish to make. A State association must be organized on the basis of citizenship, and it must give to every woman, in good standing (of course, there must be an eligibility standard), living away from her

home alumnae association an opportunity to take an active part in the work that is going on. Otherwise she can only sit in the background and say nothing.

Miss Barnard in the chair and the president took the floor.—I think it has always been in the minds of all of us that ultimately we should have local associations and State associations for the very reason that Miss Palmer speaks of that. When a nurse comes into any town or city, if she is a member of her school alumnae, no matter what State she comes from, she at once becomes a member of the local association and has her voice in its business affairs just as if she had been there always. If graduates, for instance, from schools in the State of Massachusetts come here, there is every reason why they should enter right into membership and attend the local meetings. Now, the question is just this: if we are going to form State associations and local associations, just how comprehensive are they to be? Shall they consist only of the members of school alumnae, or shall we be more comprehensive and take in women who can qualify in every way just as well as any of us, but who, for various reasons, do not belong to their school alumnae? For instance, the school from which they graduate may not have an alumnae association. It may be that she may never return to the city where she graduated, and there would be no motive for her to help organize an alumnae association in her school. Just the same, that woman wants to be identified with nursing progress in every way. Again I ask, how comprehensive are you going to make the local organizations? From the local organizations will come the State associations.

Miss Dock.—I think the great thing needed is to get nurses to organize—to get them into organizations. I doubt if Miss Barnard's fears of undoing all our work on alumnae lines will be justified. If I thought so I would hesitate. I do not think she is quite right. I do not think the alumnae will be weakened by having other organizations spring up. If we find common ground to work together, all will be strengthened. What I should be sorry to see would be State associations not affiliating with the national body. The national organization, I understand, does not control local affairs. We must make a compromise. The national association must not be too rigid as to membership, and the State organization must not be too independent and stand on State rights. Both sides must make concessions. A compromise might be made in this way: if the State organization in forming found it better to have a very wide, loose membership admission, and the national association feared that this would injure their standard, then suppose a time limit be established, in which the State organization could take in members on that basis. At the end of the time limit, say five years, a more definite standard might be fixed. That plan is often pursued in State legislation. After a certain period uniform standards may be fixed in all the States, which standards should be fixed by the vote of the national body, to which I hope the State associations will always belong.

MISS BARNARD.—I did not mean to say that we would necessarily undo the work we have already done, but I hope that instead of making a hasty decision to-day, that a committee may be formed to consider the matter.

MISS DOCK.—In the second paragraph of the proposed amendment to Article IV. it is said: "Associate membership shall consist of duly elected delegates representing alumnae associations of small general hospitals whose superintendents are eligible for membership in the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools." I believe that it is out of place in this constitution, and I do not think the two societies should be taken into consideration. The National

Alumnæ Association is the association we are now considering, while the American Society of Superintendents is a society of teachers.

MISS BREEZE.—It seems to me that we ought to make the limit of beds less than one hundred. If we are going to help in getting State legislation, we will need the help of all graduated nurses in the State. There are many good schools giving the full two years' training where the hospitals have only fifty or seventy-five beds. I think it would be better to have a smaller number of beds.

THE PRESIDENT.—We have already stricken out the clause, "of not less than one hundred beds," which accomplishes what you desire. I wish to suggest that the school alumnæ throughout New York State form into local associations and form a State association, and that during the year they formulate how much more extensive they wish to make their membership and place it before this association next year.

MISS PALMER.—The alumnæ associations can only use their resident membership. Let the resident members get together and form a society and call it local or county. Those who are not resident members will have no voice in that branch of work.

THE PRESIDENT.—We want local associations formed as soon as possible to get our State organization under way during the coming year. I think there are a sufficient number of you who are members of school alumnæ to get together and form local associations. This will be a nucleus for the State organization. When you get organized, come to some conclusion as to your requirements for membership, how comprehensive you mean to be. We are all agreed that a woman who can qualify in every way except through her school alumnæ ought to have the privileges afforded by the local organizations. We want to get our State organization as soon as possible. For organization purposes take the material you have in your local alumnæ associations for a nucleus, and I advise you to get to work. You will present an object-lesson to other States just as soon as the work gets under way, and if you go about it promptly you will be of great assistance to other States in their organization of State associations.

MISS BARNARD.—It seems to me that we should have a committee appointed to consider this question.

MISS PALMER.—I don't think that the committee should be appointed from this association. I think that the State association should be free to act as it sees fit.

MISS DOCK.—If it will make the work of revision of the constitution easier, I am willing to withdraw my amendment to the amendment, believing that the matter will be better provided for in another way.

THE PRESIDENT.—Just now the constitution is drawn up for associated alumnæ. It seems to me that the adoption of these amendments now would involve the changing of the name of the constitution and revising it from beginning to end.

MISS PALMER.—As I understand, it is proposed that the resident members of the alumnæ associations of New York State shall come together and make themselves a nucleus upon which we shall build our State society, and that we shall practically waive the constitution for the year and report to this association at its next meeting what our requirements are, and then make our application for affiliation with the national association.

Miss Nutting, who had proposed the amendments to the constitution at the last meeting of the association, said, "In view of the fact that the constitution



is to be revised in order to give the association wider scope and bring in other associations, I will withdraw my amendment."

The further amendments to the constitution having been withdrawn, the discussion was declared closed and the convention proceeded to a consideration of the papers prepared for the day.

The first subject was "Openings for Women in the Nursing Profession." Miss Elizabeth R. Scovil, of the Massachusetts General Hospital Alumnae, presented the first paper, which was read by Miss Thornton, the secretary.

Miss S. Louise Laird, of the Rochester City Hospital Alumnae, next read a paper on "The Work of Nurses in Asylums."

A paper on "The Work of Nurses in Sanitariums," prepared by Miss Lobb, of the Farrand Training-School Alumnae, was next read, followed by a paper on "The Work of Nurses in Schools and Colleges," prepared by Miss Martha S. Barr, of the Boston City Hospital Alumnae.

The next general subject selected for discussion was "District and Settlement Work." Under this head a paper on "Settlements" was read by Miss Lilian D. Wald, of the New York Hospital Alumnae.

Under the same general head a paper on "District Work in New York" was next submitted by Miss H. Van Cleft, of the Presbyterian Hospital Alumnae, of New York.

The convention then took a recess until two o'clock P.M.

At two o'clock the convention reconvened and the president announced that the first business in order would be the report of the Committee on Nominations.

Miss Damer made the following report:

#### REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE.

"The Nominating Committee beg to submit the following names to be voted upon for office during the coming year:

"President—Mrs. Isabel Hampton Robb; Dr. Tompkins, graduate St. Luke's, New York; Miss Wadley, graduate Bellevue, New York.

"First Vice-President—Miss M. V. Clymer, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Miss Plummer, Massachusetts General, Boston; Miss Hackett, Illinois Training-School, Chicago.

"Second Vice-President—Mrs. Cuthbertson, St. Luke's, Chicago; Miss Keating, Erie County, Buffalo; Miss Mary E. Smith, Farrand Training-School, Detroit.

"Secretary—Miss Thornton, Post-Graduate Hospital, New York; Miss Dawson, New York Hospital, New York; Miss Carrie Sutliff, New York Hospital, New York.

"Treasurer—Miss Healy, Brooklyn Hospital, Brooklyn, New York; Miss Mason, Brooklyn Hospital, Brooklyn, New York; Miss Stone, Presbyterian Hospital, New York.

"Chairman of Committee on Arrangements—Miss Damer, of Buffalo, New York.

"The Nominating Committee would like to suggest, as the next annual meeting is to be held in Buffalo, that Miss Damer be given the power to choose her own associates.

"ANNIE DAMER,  
"Chairman Nominating Committee."

Ballots for voting were distributed, and the president announced that the result of the ballot would not be reported until the close of the session.

Miss Merritt announced that a meeting of the delegates from the New York Alumnae Association for the purpose of considering the subject of organizing a

State association would be held at the Presbyterian Hospital at three o'clock P.M. to-morrow.

By request, Miss Alline addressed the convention briefly on the subject of the teachers' course of study, which she had taken during the past year. She said:

"I am very glad to speak about this course as well as I can, and I can best do so by giving you briefly my experience in the work.

"I consider the course a practical one, not only for superintendents who wish to take up hospital work in the future, but also a practical course for nurses in private work. All of you know that in the past two or three years great interest has grown up in private work in regard to the foods and dietaries in families. You all know that this subject is having special attention now, and if the nurses do not keep up with the work in this branch of their profession and know what particular diet to prescribe in certain cases and become thoroughly acquainted with all the details of the work, the people at home will think it better to have home nurses in place of graduated nurses. The doctors are now taking much more interest in this subject than heretofore. The teachers' course affords to the nurse a thorough and practical training in this very important branch of their profession. We have a thorough course of teaching in institutional work, and we all know from our own training that the teaching has not been all that it should be. Of course, a great deal of that is due to the time given to it. More time will be required from now on, and our work in the teachers' college in that way gives a woman the opportunity of making out her lessons in a practical way. If she goes on with one recitation, she knows how much she can do in the limited time she has; she can work it out so that she gets the greatest advantage in the least time. We have, in connection with our domestic science work, domestic chemistry. In this branch of the work not only are the foods analyzed, but the utensils used in cooking the foods. We do not need any one to tell us whether we can put acids in copper or tin vessels. We have that work down to a fine point, and we take up every subject in the same way. The work has been very pleasant this year and we have accomplished a great deal, but I feel that more time is needed. If you could come to the college and see the work going on you would take more interest in it. The college life is not only interesting, but it is beneficial as well. We have a course of lectures and entertainments for all the students, and the students' clubs are carried on under strict parliamentary rules. As to the financial part of it, your matriculation fee is five dollars and your books cost about twenty dollars. Your entire college expense will average about a hundred dollars a year."

THE PRESIDENT.—We will not attempt to go into details in explaining this teachers' course. Our circular will be out in a few weeks, and it will explain the course thoroughly. I shall be very glad to furnish a copy of the circular to any one who desires it and who will write to my address or to Miss Alline, Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York City. Every one who can do so ought to visit the college on Tuesday afternoon. Miss Alline will be there and will be glad to take you over the college. It is worth a visit.

Miss Maxwell next announced that nurses from St. Luke's Hospital, New York, and St. Luke's Hospital, Utica, and the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, will be in Paris this year for the purpose of nursing American visitors. Their address will be care of Miss Emma Keith Booth, 201 Rue Vaugirard, Paris. They have been advised to go there to do this work, and they will be properly chaperoned and have an abiding-place with a married woman, which they have been told is very important to their success in Paris.

MISS HACKETT.—I wish to move that the delegates to this convention petition the American Society of Superintendents that they individually and col-

lectively use all possible means to discourage the practice of sending third-year pupil nurses outside the hospital for private duty.

Seconded by Miss Dock and unanimously carried.

MISS NUTTING.—We are told that the Army Nursing bill is now dead. It came up in the Senate three weeks ago, and by the vote of only one senator it was reported adversely, and it did not come up in the House at all. From every quarter the report has been industriously circulated that the representative nurses of this country were not in favor of this bill. This report is a gross misrepresentation of the true feeling on the subject. The representative nurses of this country are in favor of the bill. They earnestly desire a change in the existing conditions of army nursing. In view of this fact, and to prevent the further circulation of so misleading a statement, I move that the president appoint a committee of three to frame a resolution expressing the sense of this convention on this subject, and that the committee report the resolution to the convention for a vote.

The motion was seconded and carried, and the president appointed Miss McIsaac, Miss Carr, and Miss Riddle a committee to prepare the resolution and report back to the convention.

The president announced that members of the International Council of Trained Nurses had been invited to attend the conference of the associated alumnae at Buffalo next year, and that from letters received from them it was stated that none of them were able to come early in the year. There were other reasons which made it desirable to have the next convention meet later than May, the time which had been selected heretofore. The Society of Superintendents will hold its annual meeting in September and the Associated Alumnae had been requested to hold their meeting at the same time. It would hardly do to meet in midsummer, and September was a pleasant month in Buffalo. If, therefore, there is no objection, it will be considered settled that the next meeting will be held in Buffalo during the third week of September instead of May.

There being no objection it was so ordered.

The convention then resumed the consideration of papers on "District Work." A paper on "District Work in Boston," prepared by Miss Lucy MacBride, of the Boston City Hospital Alumnae, was next read, followed by a paper on "District Work in Philadelphia," prepared by Miss Forbes, of the Pennsylvania Hospital Alumnae, and by one on "District Work in Chicago," prepared by Miss Harriet Fulmer, of St. Luke's Hospital Alumnae, Chicago. Miss Annie Damer, of the Bellevue Hospital Alumnae, gave her paper on "District Work in Buffalo."

Three papers on "Visiting Nursing," prepared by Mrs. William M. Carhart, of the New York Post-Graduate Hospital Alumnae, by Miss J. J. Cunningham, of the Rochester City Hospital Alumnae, and by Miss Helena Barnard, of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Alumnae, were omitted in consequence of the limited time. The president announced that these papers would appear in the printed proceedings.

Miss McIsaac, from the committee appointed to frame a resolution expressing the feeling of the convention upon the subject of the Army Nursing bill, submitted the following:

"The Associated Alumnae of Trained Nurses of the United States, representing by its forty-eight delegates many of the principal training-schools for

nurses of the country, at its third annual meeting, held at the Academy of Medicine, in New York, May 5, 1900, proposes the following resolution:

*"Resolved, That this association strongly and unanimously endorses the principles contained in the bill recently before Congress, to establish a permanent Army Nursing Service, under the direction of a properly qualified trained nurse, subject to the control of the Secretary of War and the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and furthermore pledges its hearty support to every effort to secure its passage."*

The resolution was unanimously carried.

The convention then resumed the consideration of papers on "The Necessity for and Development of Post-Graduate Work for Graduate Nurses." Papers on this subject were read by Miss Mary Day Barnes, of the Illinois Training-School Alumnae, and by Miss Persis Plummer, of the Massachusetts General Hospital Alumnae. A general discussion finally closed this part of the proceedings.

THE PRESIDENT.—What is the pleasure of the convention as to the affiliation of this body with the International Council of Nurses?

MISS DOCK.—As secretary of the Superintendents' Society, I would caution you against haste. The Superintendents' Society decided to enter the National Council of Women as a body, but I have not yet seen the letter saying so. Then the question of affiliating with you in the International Council of Nurses was brought up but no vote taken. I believe the general sentiment of that society would be for affiliation. But no action has been taken, and I would suggest that you empower your secretary to write to me as secretary of the Superintendents' Society, and I will lay the proposition before my society that such an affiliation is desired by you. I will submit the question by letter and get the votes in the same way.

MISS BREEZE.—I move that the president appoint two members of this association to confer with the Superintendents' Society, and that all further business as to the affiliation with the International Council of Nurses be left to the Executive Committee. Carried.

MISS ROSS.—I move that a committee of five be appointed by the chair to consider the best methods of establishing a Central Directory and to report at the next annual meeting.

Seconded by Miss Carr, and adopted.

MISS NUTTING. Is it possible to suspend the by-laws to enable me to present a name for honorary membership?

THE PRESIDENT.—The by-laws can be suspended by unanimous consent.

The rules having been unanimously suspended, Mrs. W. Bayard Cutting was elected an honorary member of this association in recognition of her special services in the interests of the nursing profession.

Miss Damer, from the Committee on Nominations, submitted the following report of the vote for officers for the ensuing year:

"President, Mrs. Isabel Hampton Robb; first vice-president, Miss Hackett; second vice-president, Miss Keating; secretary, Miss Thornton; treasurer, Miss Healy; chairman of Committee on Arrangements, Miss Damer."

MISS CARR.—I wish to submit the following:

"WHEREAS, The delegates to the Associated Alumnae of the United States, desiring to express their appreciation of the work of the Committee on Arrangements, it is

*"Resolved, That our most hearty gratitude be extended to the Committee on Arrangements, and especially to its chairman, Miss Maxwell, for the excellent*

provision for the comfort and entertainment of the delegates during this convention."

Unanimously carried.

THE PRESIDENT.—We all heartily concur in the resolution that our Committee of Arrangements have taken splendid care of us, and I ask a rising vote of thanks to the committee.

A unanimous rising vote was given.

Miss Isaac introduced a resolution of thanks to the entertainers of the delegates, which was unanimously adopted.

Miss Hackett, the newly elected vice-president, said that she had no idea of being elected to the position, but as she had been, she would do the best she could.

MISS KEATING.—I really have no speech to make. I shall hope the president and vice-president may be there to do everything, and that I shall not be needed for much.

THE PRESIDENT.—In closing the proceedings of this convention I want to say that we have many things to be thankful for. The registers show the full number of delegates lacking one, and the general meetings have been well attended. The papers and the discussions have been excellent. The weather has been delightful, and I want to express my personal thanks for your continued confidence in my ability to guide the affairs of your association. I can only assure you of my willingness and desire to further the interests of the association in every way possible.

I now declare the Third Annual Convention of the Associated Alumnae of Trained Nurses of the United States adjourned.